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P 231319Z OCT 06
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3543
INFO RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 3144
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 0389
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 8535
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 5950

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 020834

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KTIA PHUM PREL PK UN
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: TRIPARTITE REQUEST ON THE UN DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

REF: STATE 169257

(SBU) On October 3, PolCouns joined the Australian Deputy High Commissioner (DHC) in delivering the points in reftel demarche to MFA (UN) Director Shafqat Ali Khan. Khan listened carefully to the DHC's review of the joint Australian-New Zealand-U.S. position and remarked that the Government of Pakistan (GOP) shared many of the same concerns. Despite this, Khan said, Pakistan has a strong interest in maintaining unity within the G-77 and NAM coalitions. Khan opined that by pressing it's views through a joint demarche, the U.S., Australia and New Zealand were contributing to the impression within the NAM and G-77 that is a "north-south" issue. Noting that this Declaration is of paramount interest to many Latin America member statescountries, Khan suggested that the U.S., Australia and New Zealand work behind the scenes with one or two sympathetic South or Central American countries ; if such a country endorsed the points advocated in the joint demarche, it would be easier for states such as Pakistan to openly adopt a similar position.

CROCKER